

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-24 are present in this application, claims 19-24 being added by way of the present amendment. Claims 3-11 are withdrawn. New claims 19-24 are supported by the non-limiting disclosure of figures 1 and 2. Claims 19-24 read on the elected species and do not raise any question of introduction of new matter.

Claims 1, 2, 13-16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. 6,847,388 (Anderson) in view of U.S. 6,233,010 (Roberts et al.).

As was described in the previous response, the frame buffers 536 in Anderson are not connected to output image data only to compression process 614. The frame buffers 536 output data to LCD 402, conversion and compression process 614 and conversion and resizing process 616. The configuration of Anderson is designed to provide a plurality of images including a high resolution image and a lower resolution image with each image file. Image data output from frame buffer 536 to LCD 402, conversion and compression process 614 and conversion and resizing process 616. Enhanced image file 600, which contains compressed image data 604, non-compressed thumbnail images 606 and scrennail image 608, is created during capture mode. Thumbnail images 606 are displayed on LCD 402 when the camera is placed in review mode to avoid processing and decompressing image data 604. Scrennail image 608 is decompressed and displayed on LCD 402 and optionally updated with higher-resolution compressed image data 604 as date 604 is being decompressed, when the camera is in play mode. This enables the camera to quickly display a full-sized version of a captured image on LCD 402 without the delay incurred by first decompressing the higher resolution image and resizing it to fit on the LCD 402. This is described, for example, in column 8 at lines 36-58.

The Office Action admits that Anderson does not have the structure of the image processing apparatuses of claims 1 and 15, and looks to Roberts et al. to cure the deficiencies of Anderson. Roberts et al. is cited for a frame buffer 11 connected to output data only to compression processor 12. The Office Action asserts that Anderson would be modified to include a frame buffer connected as taught by Roberts et al. for the benefit of providing a camera which is efficient in design and providing digital images for immediate and direct incorporation into word processing, desktop publishing and other software programs on PCs. However, if the modification asserted by the Examiner is implemented in Anderson, that is, the data from frame buffer 536 is only input to compression unit 614, then data would no longer be sent to LCD 402 or conversion and resizing unit 616. The system of Anderson then would therefore no longer be able to directly display the YCC 222 data on LCD 402 or display the YCC 422 data on the LCD 402 as a thumbnail image. Anderson would therefore be rendered incapable of performing the desired functions described above. It is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art would not modify Anderson such that the advantageous features the device would be lost.

One of the main features of the device of Anderson is being able to display the lower resolution images, which is described in numerous places, such as the Abstract and in column 8. Moreover, Roberts et al. is directed to obtaining frames of video data and storing them on an disk I/O interface, different from the digital images (including thumbnail and screennail images) obtained in Anderson and displayed on LCD 402. The video data in Roberts et al. merits different treatment.

The references further teach away from combining Anderson and Roberts et al. If “frame buffer 536” of Anderson is connected only to “conversion and compression unit 614,” as described in the Office Action, by incorporating frame buffer 11 of Roberts et al. connected to output data only to compression processor 12 into Anderson, then data would no

longer be sent to LCD 402 and “conversion and resizing unit 616.” Thus, while taking pictures, a live view is not displayed on LCD 402 and thumbnail images 606 are no longer created. Accordingly, the above-described effect in Anderson in review mode based upon the feature which displays thumbnail images 606 directly on LCD 402 (that is, to eliminate the need to process and decompress compressed image data 604 and to accelerate the user interface) would be lost. One skilled in the art would not modify Anderson using Roberts et al. as asserted in the Office Action.

Therefore, it is clear that one of ordinary skill in the art would not modify Anderson to output data only to the conversion and compression process 614 based upon the teachings of Roberts et al. The § 103 rejection based upon Roberts et al. and Anderson should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

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